

# COMMODITY MARKETS

## Week's Wholesale Review

Dun's Bulletin says of Montreal trade: The bright summer-like weather of late prevailing is not such as the retailers of dry goods look for, and fall stocks are little broken into as yet, but in the wholesale trade goodly bunches of orders are reported from day to day, and all local houses are showing a substantial increase in sales over last year.

Conditions in the fur manufacturing line are improving and there are indications of wavering on the part of some of the striking operatives. It is expected that deliveries of ladies' fur will be made fairly on time, though shipments of heavy furs may be somewhat delayed. Muskrat and fox are in great demand and are bringing very high prices.

The slackness in the boot and shoe manufacturing trade continues quite marked, and some concerns are said to be still fairly loaded up with high priced material, so that there is only a moderate volume of business passing in the leather line.

The local iron market rules very quiet, and it is hoped that the action of the United States Government in regulating the price of pig iron may tend to modify the abnormally high figures which foundrymen had to pay for some time past.

The lumber trade is quiet. Export to Britain is impossible under existing shipping conditions. There is fair enquiry from the United States but deliveries are impeded owing to shortage of labor and car service.

In general hardware a fair business is being done with the country, but in tools and builders' hardware business is light, owing to the great restriction in construction.

The movement in staple groceries is about normal. An earlier feeling prevails in sugars although local refineries have as yet made no concession on the high prices of late prevailing. Molasses is held at the excessive figures lately reported, fancy grades sold three years ago at 24½ cents, now being quoted in round lots of 75 cents. Teas share in the general advance, and new crop Japans are costing from 8 to 9 cents a lb. over last year's figures, while for Indians even a greater advance is being asked. Of canned salmon the market is absolutely bare.

General collections are well maintained, and the failure list is a remarkably one, only three small district insolvencies being reported for the week, with liabilities of \$22,000.

Bradstreet's Montreal Weekly Trade Report says: The Government's preliminary estimate of the wheat crop of Canada is 249,164,700 bushels, which was produced from 14,755,800 acres, being an average of 16.88 bushels per acre. These figures show an increase in production of 19,851,700 bushels. The total yield of oats this year is placed at 399,843,000 bushels, which was harvested from 12,052,000 acres. The estimate of the crop of rye is placed at 4,194,950 bushels taken from 21,870 acres. The barley crop is estimated at 59,318,000 bushels, which was produced on 2,392,200 acres.

The harvesting of the peach crop in the Niagara fruit belt is at its height this week. The weather in the province of Quebec during the past week has been ideal, and has been of great benefit to the building trade, which has been more active of late. The flour milling industry held a meeting this week with the food controller, which may lead to some important changes being made shortly.

There was quite a big jump in the price of butter this week, which was attributed to buying for export. There has been a substantial advance in the price of teas, especially in China and Japan goods. Spices are advancing in sympathy with the stronger feeling in the primary markets.

Reports from the hardware trade report trade as generally good with few price changes. Hides are easier, with inquiry light. The retail trade is generally active. Remittances are good; city collections are improving.

### LIVESTOCK.

**MONTREAL.**—The receipts of cattle at the two yards for the week amounted to 4,650 cattle, 10,300 sheep and lambs, 3,650 hogs and 1,500 calves.

The feature of the trade continues to be the demand for canners' cattle and as the supply of common and inferior stock was large trade was brisk with sales at \$6.00 to \$6.25 for bulls, and \$5 to \$5.25 per 100 lbs.

for cows. The trade in all grades of cattle was active throughout the week with prices firm with those of the previous week. The market for lambs developed a very strong tone owing to the large demand for lambs for shipment to the United States and prices scored an advance of from 25c to 50c per 100 lbs.—round lots of Quebec lambs selling at from \$14.00 to \$14.50, and Ontario stock at \$15.00 to \$15.25. There was no change in the market for sheep. Calves were in fair supply for the time of the year, and there was an active demand for veal. There was a fair demand for hogs and the market became stronger and prices scored an advance of 25c per 100 lbs.

### MONTREAL.

Butchers steers, per 100 lbs.		
Do., choice	10.25	10.50
Do., good	9.75	10.00
Do., medium	8.75	9.00
Do., rough	8.00	8.50
Butchers' Cows		
Do., choice	8.25	8.50
Do., good	7.75	8.00
Do., fair	7.25	7.50
Bulls, choice	8.75	9.00
Do., good	8.25	8.50
Do., fair	7.75	8.00
Canners' cattle:		
Do., bulls	6.00	6.25
Do., cows	5.00	5.25
Sheep and Lambs.		
Ewes	9.50	10.00
Bucks	8.50	9.00
Ontario lambs	15.00	15.25
Quebec lambs	14.00	14.50
Calves, choice	14.00	15.00
Do., good	12.00	13.00

Hogs.		
Do., choice selects	18.00	18.25
Do., heavyweights	17.00	17.75
Sows	15.00	15.25
Stags	13.75	14.25

**TORONTO.**—The receipts of cattle at the two yards, for the week ending September 29, 1917, amounted to 6,156 cattle, 487 calves, 2,564 hogs, and 5,723 sheep and lambs. A good demand for good choice cattle at firm prices, and hogs advanced to \$18.75. Fed and watered were the features of the livestock markets last week. At Monday's market there was a good strong trade in cattle with prices steady with the close of the previous week. At Tuesday's sale trade was slow due to the fact that no choice cattle were offered. On Wednesday, although the offerings were still of inferior quality a better trade was done. Owing to a scarcity in the supply of hogs and a good demand from packers prices advanced—in spite of the fact that the animals were light and not finished stuff—on Monday 25c per 100 lbs., on Tuesday a further 25c per 100 lbs., and on Wednesday, still another 25c per 100 lbs. On Monday sheep and lambs suffered a drop of from 75c to \$1.00 in prices, but on Tuesday the market became stronger, and by Wednesday had firmed up a little.

Quotations:		
Choice export steers	11.50	12.25
Butchers' choice handy	10.25	11.00
Do., good	9.25	10.00
Do., medium	8.00	8.50
Do., common	7.25	7.75
Butchers' bulls, choice	8.00	9.25
Do., good	7.50	8.25
Do., medium	6.25	7.25
Butchers' choice cows	8.00	8.50
Do., good	7.00	7.50
Do., medium	6.50	7.00
Do., common	6.00	6.50
Feeders	8.00	9.25
Stockers, good	7.25	8.00
Do., medium	6.75	7.25
Canners	5.25	5.75
Milkers, good to choice	90.00	135.00
Do., common and medium	65.00	85.00
Springers	40.00	120.00
Calves, veal, choice	14.75	15.25
Do., medium	11.00	13.00
Do., common	6.50	8.50
Do., grass	6.00	7.00
Do., heavy fat	8.00	10.50
Spring lambs, cwt.	15.25	15.75
Sheep, ewes, light	8.50	11.00
Do., heavy and bucks	7.50	9.50
Do., culls	4.00	5.50
Hogs, fed and watered	18.75	.....
Do., off cars	19.00	.....
Do., f.o.b.	17.75	.....

### PROVISIONS.

The receipts during the past week were 1,865 boxes meat, 19 packages hams and bacon, 308 packages lard and 1 package pork, as against 10,253 boxes meats, 4,319 packages hams and bacon, 15,645 packages lard and 200 packages pork, for the same week last year. Receipts of live hogs for the week were 3,418 live hogs against 10,992 live hogs last year.

The tone of the market for live hogs remains very strong and the market for dressed hogs is firm with sales at \$25 to \$25.50 per 100 lbs. Canada short cut back pork, \$52 to \$52.50. Regular mess, \$49 to \$51. A fairly active trade has been done in dressed and smoked meats at increased prices. The demand from local and country dealers for lard has been good and an active trade has been done.

Current prices are quoted as follows:

Hams:—		Per lb.
Smoked Hams, 8-10 lbs.	0.32	0.33
Do., 12-15 lbs.	0.29	0.30
Do., over 25 lbs.	0.28	0.29
Bacon:—		
Breakfast	0.37	0.38
Windsor Bacon, selected	0.39	0.40
Windsor Bacon, boneless	0.41	0.42
Pure Lard:—		
20 lbs. pails	0.26	0.27
Compound Lard (Western Grades):—		
Tubs	0.21½	0.22

### BUTTER.

The receipts of butter for the week ending September 29th, 1917, were 9,463 packages, which show a decrease of 1,965 packages as compared with the previous week, and a decrease of 5,704 packages with the same week last year, while the total receipts since May 1st to date show a decrease of 117,780 packages, as compared with the corresponding period in 1916. The total receipts of butter for the month of September, 1917, were 44,738 packages, as against 90,968 for the same month a year ago, showing a decrease of 46,230 packages. The arrivals from the United States for the month of September, 1916, were 8,969 packages, making the actual decrease in the receipts of Canadian butter for the month 37,261 packages.

The strong feeling which developed in the butter market some weeks ago became even more pronounced last week and prices scored a further advance making a new record by being the highest ever paid in the history of the trade. In the month of September, 1916, the range of prices were from 33c to 37½c, as compared with 40½c to 45½c for the same month this year, and the advance in prices since August, 1914, has been 15½c to 16½c per lb.

The strength of the market is attributed to the falling off in receipts and the heavy purchases for exports. At the auction sales held in Montreal last week there were 1,703 packages of creamery butter offered, and the prices paid were 1½c to 2½c per lb. higher than the previous week. The pasteurized creamery sold at 45c to 45½c per lb., finest creamery at 44½c to 45½c, and fine creamery at 44½c, while at Gould's Cold Storage the offerings amounted to 500 packages, which brought from 44½c to 45½c. At St. Hyacinthe on Saturday prices were advanced 2½c per lb. over a week ago, all the offerings selling at 45½c, and at Cowansville they were 1½c higher at 45½c.

Finest creamery	45	45½
Fine Creamery	44	44½
Finest dairy	38	38½
Fine dairy	37	37½
Lower grades	36	36½

### CHEESE.

A firmer feeling developed in the cheese market last week and prices advanced 1-16 c. to 3-16 c. at some of the country boards. The highest price paid was 21½c per lb. In most cases however, 21½c. to 21¾c. were the prices paid. There was active trade during the week with good demand from exporters.

The commission is paying the following prices:

No. 1 western and eastern cheese	0.21¾
No. 2 western and eastern cheese	0.21¼
No. 3 western and eastern cheese	0.20¾
Lower grades	0.20¼

While there were receipts of decided fish exports. We quote Strictly Selected No. 1 c. No. 2 c.

Prices a firm due to the fact that the market is reported of the points in consequence of light, but near future.

Nothing has remained. We quote Can. 3-1 Can. 5-1 Rangoon Yellow

A strong due to the and price. We quote White c. Brown White c. Buckwh

Prices is very. We quote Extra c. Choice Good s. Lower Sugar.

### RE

The m week e Wheat, Oats, b. Barley. Flour. Hay, b.

### REC

The ending

No. 1 F No. 1 M No. 2 M No. 3 M No. 4 No. 5 V No. 6 V Feed W Rejecte No. Gra Winter No. 4 S No. 5 S No. 6 S

Total Oats Barley Flax